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Under-construction residential towers at Brentwood in Burnaby.
DAVID P. BALL/METRO

EMPTY HOMES RISING

And the problem is spreading beyond Vancouver metroNEWS

No charges laid in Vancouver party bus death

CHELSEA JAMES

'We just think it's crazy there's nothing,' says mother

The grieving mother of a 23-year-old woman who died after falling out of a party bus says she's heartbroken that criminal charges won't be laid in the case.

Vancouver police said Tuesday that a malfunctioning door was a main factor in the death of Chelsea James. The owner and driver have been fined under the Motor Vehicle Act, but there is no offence in the Criminal Code to charge them with, police said.

"We just think it's crazy that there's nothing, after you've adapted a door that didn't work and there's been a death," said the young woman's mother, Shelly James, through tears.

"That breaks our hearts."

Police said James lost her balance as the bus was making a left turn in downtown Vancouver on Jan. 9. She stumbled into the stairwell and against the pneumatic passenger door, which opened suddenly. She fell out of the door and was struck by the bus.

James, an educational assistant from Langley, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police determined that a mechanical malfunction and low operating pressure on the pneumatic door were the main contributing factors in her death.

Silver Lady Limousine Services, the owner of the bus, did not respond to a request for comment. President and owner Douglas LeMoine expressed his "deepest sympathies" to the family in January.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

This Vancouver hot spot named best new restaurant in Canada metroLIFE

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Shoppers Drug Mart has applied to be a distributor of medical marijuana.

Walking the walk of the missing

INDIGENOUS WOMEN

Man crosses B.C. on Highway of Tears

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Walking, camping and hitchhiking the entire width of British Columbia isn't exactly a typical activity for seniors-care home residents, especially not ones experiencing dementia.

But when Brett Merchant, a 56-year-old resident of one such care facility in Kimberley, B.C., watched a Netflix documentary about the province's notorious Highway 16 — on which dozens of indigenous women and girls have disappeared — he was so moved that's exactly what he decided to do.

"I'd heard of the Highway of Tears over the years, but never knew anything really," he told Metro in a phone interview from Prince Rupert. "But I watched (the film) Highway of Tears — and said, 'That's it, I'm going. Now.'

"By walking this walk, I can imagine what it might have been like for these people to be out there hitchhiking, but I still can't feel or know exactly what it was like."

He embarked on the 1,236-kilometre journey from the Alberta border to Prince Rupert despite having an auto-immune disease — systemic lupus erythematosus — as well as early-onset dementia and diabetes.

That's not to mention his family's worry for his safety.

On his online fundraising page (gofundme.com/highwayoftears), proceeds from which he'll donate to native women's shelters, he noted, "I'm very aware that I have a limited time in which I will be physically able to make a difference in the world."

Accompanied by his dog, Kura, he's already reached the coast, but was delayed by a leg injury. He's now preparing to continue on Thursday, catching a ferry to Haida Gwaii for his final 126 kilometres to Old Massett.

First Nations have been particularly receptive, he said. As he neared one reserve, a man drove up to him at 10:30 p.m. one night.

> **The whole story of the Highway of Tears is also a story of what's happened to aboriginal peoples to start with.... They've been beaten to the ground with colonialism.**
> Brett Merchant

"Are you Brett?" the stranger asked him. "My father's standing at the end of the drive about a kilometre up the road and would like to know if you'd stay with my mom and dad tonight."

But when he arrived at the family's driveway, it wasn't just the father standing there.

"There were piles of people there who had come out from the reserve that night to greet me," he recalled. "A grandmother came up to me with a picture and said, 'This was my granddaughter, and she was murdered about four years ago.'

"All I could do was hold that lady."

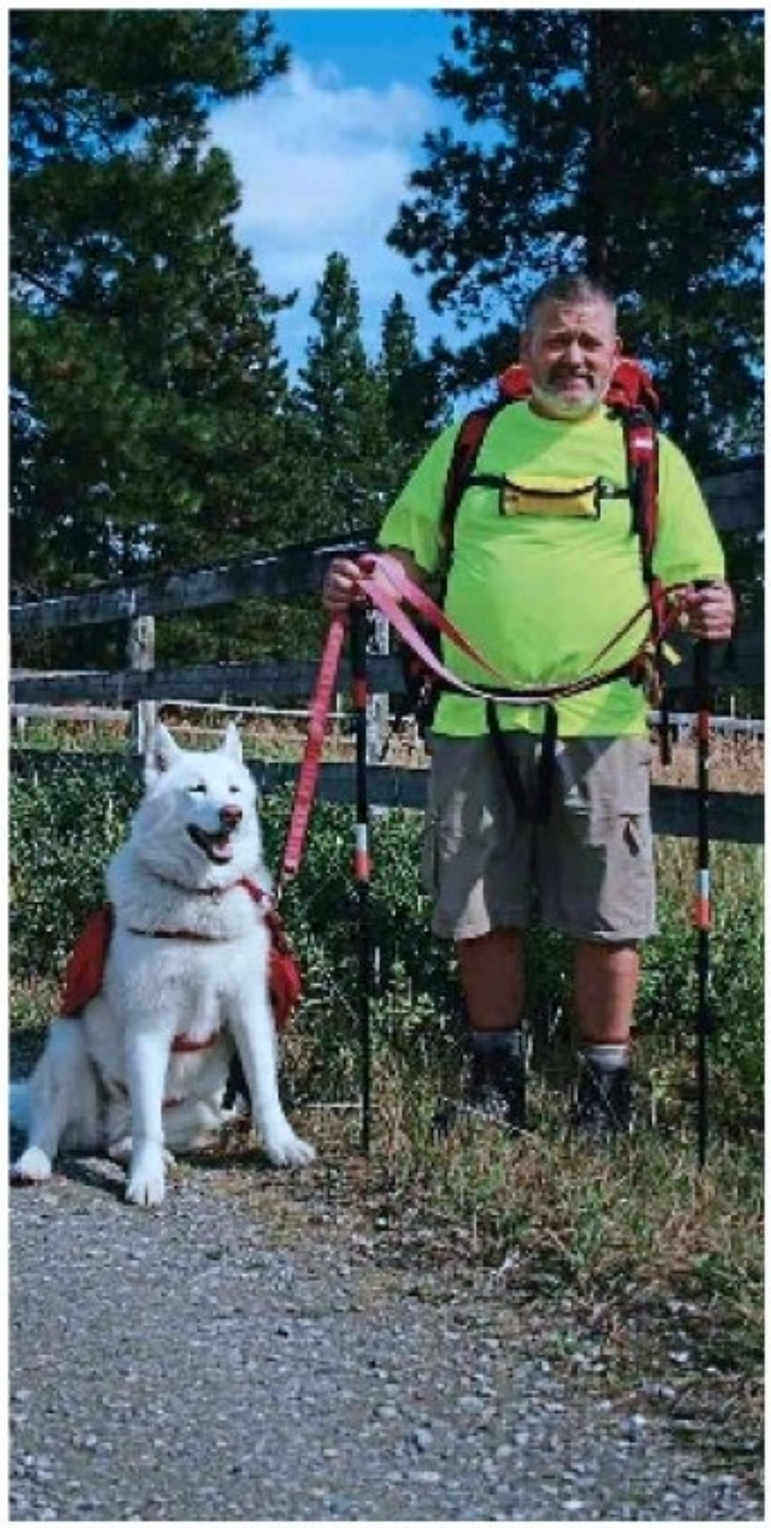
Merchant, who grew up in Cranbrook, is not indigenous, but said that non-native Canadians need to do more to show compassion and address the wrongs of history. He hoped to bring attention not only to the issue of missing and murdered women, but Canada's legacy of injustice.

Since many of the women who have gone missing on the highway were hitchhiking, Merchant plans to make the return journey thumbing rides.

Asked what he learned from the families of missing women he met and who shared their grief along his journey, he said it's actually a message for their loved ones' killers.

"Whoever has done this out there, I know you're broken and need help," he said. "The best thing to do is turn yourself in.

"But please, at least let somebody know where their bodies are so they can be returned to their families. They need to heal."



Brett Merchant, a resident of a Kimberley, B.C., care home, walked from the B.C. border to Prince Rupert, and on Thursday will catch a ferry to Haida Gwaii for the final leg of his journey before hitchhiking home. COURTESY BRETT MERCHANT

OIL SPILL

Thousands of litres of fuel not recovered

More than 90,000 litres of diesel have yet to be accounted for after a group overseeing cleanup of a spill from a submerged tug on British Columbia's central coast said the tanks aboard the Nathan E. Stewart have been pumped out.

Heiltsuk Nation Chief Marilyn Slett said members of her First Nation were on local beaches Tuesday trying to limit pollution after fuel soiled the shoreline along the renowned Great Bear Rainforest on B.C.'s central coast.

"The crews have been raking the beaches physically with a rake to try and bring up the diesel that's trapped. We understand the diesel's trapped up to eight inches below the surface and then they flush it out with water and then they repeat that," she said.

A joint report issued by the American tug owner and federal, provincial and First Nations representatives said 110,131 litres of an oil-water mixture have been recovered.

An estimate of the amount of diesel that leaked from the tug is not expected for several days, said an information officer at the joint unit command.

Officials said the tug was loaded with 226,840 litres of when it ran aground just west of Bella Bella on Oct. 13, and nearly 25,000 litres were removed before the vessel settled under nine metres of water in Seaforth Channel.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Emptiness all too common

REAL ESTATE

Unoccupied units not just a Vancouver problem

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

It's not just Vancouver — Surrey, Richmond and Burnaby might also want to think about implementing an empty-homes tax.

An analysis of Statistics Canada census data over the past 30 years shows a sharp increase in the percentage of Metro Vancouver homes either not permanently lived in or vacant. In 1981, 3.2 per cent of homes, or 15,870 housing units, were either unoccupied or not occupied by permanent residents. By 2006, that had jumped to 6.2 per cent, or 58,229 units, with 87 per cent of those units being classed as unoccupied.

"What I wanted to do is show how it's a regional issue as opposed to just within the City of Vancouver," said Andy Yan, an urban planner and director of Simon Fraser University's city program. "So the idea of an empty-homes tax and all the provincial changes that were required may need to occur on a regional level as opposed to a city by city level."

> **It's not only a question of supply but about how it connects up to demand and what kind of demand we want to support.**
> Andy Yan

This summer, the province agreed to make changes to Vancouver's charter to allow the city to implement an extra two per cent property tax on homes left empty for nine months of the year. So far, Vancouver is the only municipality to be granted the ability to levy such a tax.

Mapped onto Metro Vancouver, Yan's data analysis for 2011 shows empty or non-resident unit "hot spots" are prevalent in areas that have seen a boom in condo construction, such as Vancouver's downtown core and Surrey's Central City neighbourhood. It also shows Surrey overtaking other municipalities between 2006 and 2011 to have the second-highest non-resident occupied rate.

Condos have been presented as an affordable way to own a home but they're also "an efficient means of investment," Yan said, adding he has spoken to homeowners who don't rent because they want to keep the unit pristine for resale.

Yan's data analysis uses a different methodology than a previous report done for the City of Vancouver by energy conservation consultant Ecotagious. That study measured electricity consumption and showed there had been little change in the percentage of empty homes between 2002 and 2014. Ecotagious calculated that 10,800 units in the City of Vancouver were empty in 2014.

Statistics Canada includes non-permanent residents (such as students and temporary or foreign residents) and unoccupied units in the same category. Units that were newly built but not yet occupied, were awaiting renovation or were in transition to a new owner or tenant were all included in the unoccupied category.

Statistics Canada determines a home is unoccupied after attempting several methods of communication with the occupants of an address and receiving no response.

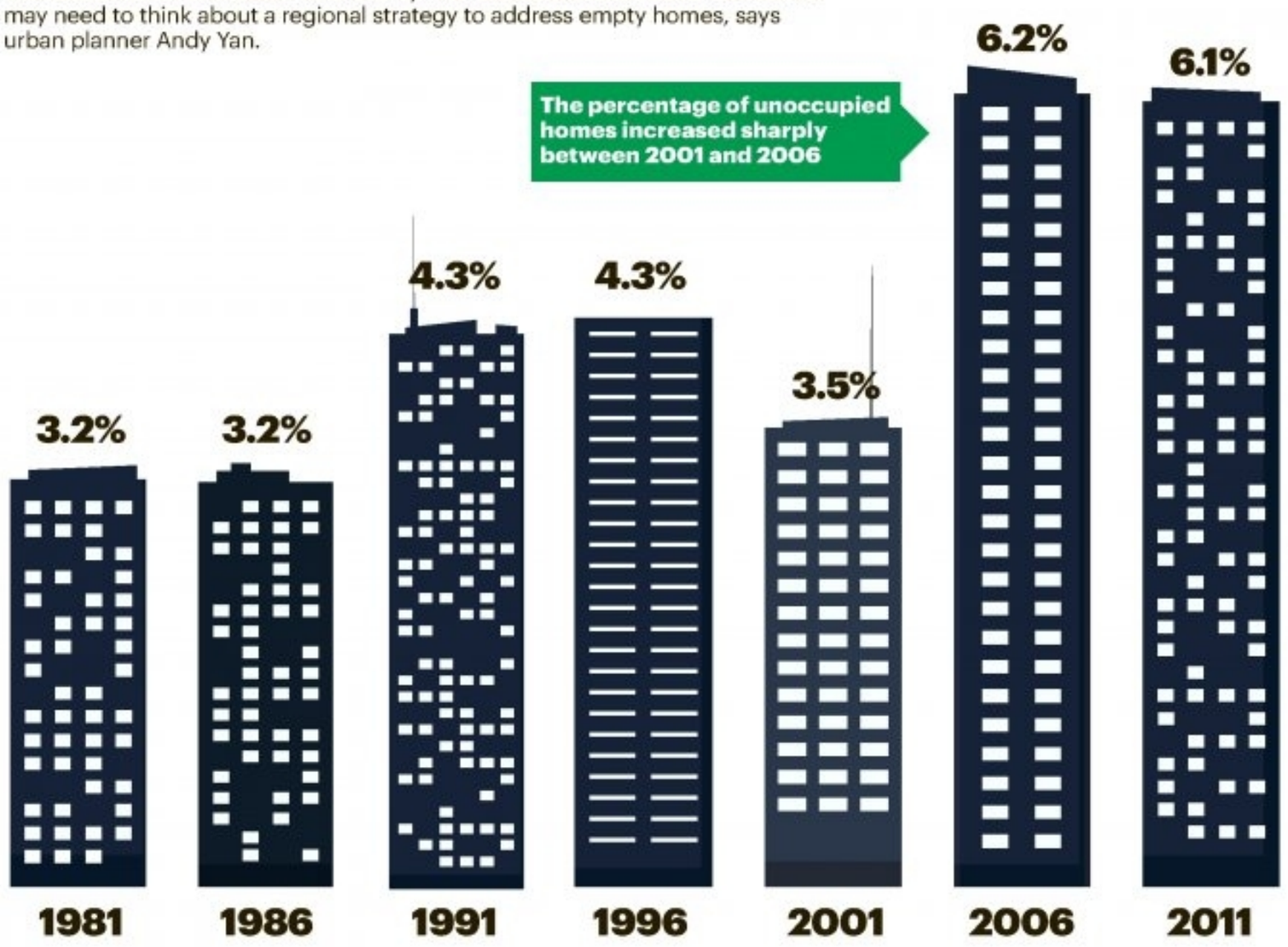
In 2011, Statistics Canada determined that 50,800 units in Metro Vancouver were unoccupied, while 7,415 were occupied by non-permanent residents, according to an analysis titled Much Ado About Nothing by Vancouver-based firm Urban Futures.

Yan noted that his analysis does not reveal why a home is unoccupied. But policies like Vancouver's empty-home tax can be used to discourage treating homes as commodities rather than housing. Yan believes that policy will help to increase the amount of rental housing in the city.

"It's not only a question of supply but about how it connects up to demand and what kind of demand we want to support," Yan said. "Do we want to support folks who are buying units for investment, as opposed to folks who are buying units as homes?"

BY THE NUMBERS | Homes not occupied by permanent residents

The percentage of Metro Vancouver homes either unoccupied or occupied by temporary residents nearly doubled between 1981 and 2006, with the steepest increases seen in Vancouver and Surrey. The data shows that Metro Vancouver may need to think about a regional strategy to address empty homes, says urban planner Andy Yan.



Surrey, Richmond and Burnaby might also want to think about implementing an empty-homes tax. DAVID P. BALL/METRO

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Tent city residents protest the city's decision to evict them from 58 West Hastings St. in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, Oct. 25. WANYEE LI/METRO

Tent city protests

WEST HASTINGS ST.

Residents given noon deadline to vacate camp

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Residents in Vancouver's tent city are protesting after city staff started confiscating tents at the 58 West Hastings St. occupation site Tuesday morning — an act some residents call "shameful."

The city says it is moving residents from the tent city due to sanitation and health concerns. There have been 65 police calls, four assaults, and 20 emergency calls-for-service at the site since the camp started in July, according to a written statement from the city. Residents are being given the option of moving into a shelter.

But advocates say shelters are not a suitable alternative to the tent city.

"What they are offering people is not housing — they are offering people shelter spots but its not even proper shelters you just sleep on a mat on the floor," said Maria Wallstan, an advocate with the Carnegie Action Project.

"That's not housing."

Wallstan and dozens of residents gathered outside the tent city Tuesday afternoon to demand better housing.

"What we want is real, dignified housing. No one deserves to be living like this," said Karen Ward, a spokesperson for the tent city.

"Shame on them… it is not acceptable that the city government is having conference to talk about housing solutions then sends people to remove people from the only home they have known for three months."

Vancouver is hosting a global housing conference from Oct. 24 to 29.

The city says once campers accept a shelter placement, staff will work with them to create long-term housing plans.

BURNABY HOMICIDE

Man killed in double stabbing at homeless camp

One man is dead and another injured following a double stabbing Monday night at a Burnaby homeless camp.

Police say there is no apparent connection between the stabbings Monday and the homicide of Kevin Knuff at a nearby homeless camp earlier this month. According to a statement, Burnaby RCMP were called just after 8 p.m. to the camp near Rumble Street and Griffith Drive. One man was found injured and was taken to hospital; a second victim died at the scene.

A 53-year-old man was arrested at the camp.

METRO

WILDLIFE

Critical to keep coyotes fearful of humans: Expert

Cooler weather means young coyotes are leaving their parents to stake out new territory and one ecologist warns it is a critical time to teach them to fear humans.

Vancouver is home to anywhere from 200 to 300 coyotes but most stay out of sight and only venture into urban areas at night.

Conservation officers were forced to kill a coyote in Mount Pleasant last summer after it became aggressive with humans and pets.

It's an incident urban wildlife coordinator, Greg Hart, says can be avoided.

"Coyotes are predators – its important that we keep them wild so that they keep eating rats, mice and squirrels … as opposed to getting in to conflict with humans, kids and our pets."

There are up to 2,000 coyote sightings in Vancouver every year, said Hart, who works with the Stanley Park Ecology Society. Coyotes are naturally shy and avoid humans if they can but if a coyote shows signs of curiosity towards humans, it is important that people condition them stay away, he said.

"If they come up toward you, raise your hands and yell 'go away coyote!'"

This can make a big impression on young coyotes, who are in the process of finding their own territory during this time of year.

People can help them pick areas that are less populated, said Hart.

"Sometimes you do encounter (young pups) during the day because they're trying to figure out where they can live. Our behaviour as a society and a community can help influence their behaviour."

Coyotes, which can weigh anywhere from 20 to 30 pounds, often live in cemeteries, golf courses, and parks, said Hart.

WANYEE LI/METRO

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TRANSLINK

Stuntman aches to hold world record

FRIGHT NIGHT

Man who put hands in 38 animal traps has few regrets

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

For a man about to willingly plunge his fingers in 38 legHold-style animal traps, the stuntman known as Sweet Pepper Klopek's voice was surprisingly, well, mousey.

"It's going to hurt, everybody," he intoned meekly, before mustering a little more bravado as he jumped from the stage and readied for the stunt. On the count of three, the pain and sharp cracking sounds began. And then, the yelling.

"Ahhrgghhh," he screamed.

His sidekick, Burnaby Q. Orbax, explained that the previous Guinness World Record in this very specific activity — also broken by Klopek, in fact — involved merely 26 animal traps in one minute.

So "in order to do all 38, ladies and gentlemen, he needs to do one trap every 1.3 seconds," Orbax said.

The pair will be performing their pain-inducing, mind-boggling and squirm-inducing stunts — including one more animal trap per night — at Playland's Fright Nights every evening until Hallowe'en night.

Orbax touted the duo as "Canada's most extreme Guinness World Record-breakers," on stage at the event. Klopek, meanwhile, nursed his visibly bruised fingers, black with damage. This was no gimmick, nor did he leave unscathed. But he did succeed in beating his prior record, and in only 40 seconds.

Did he have any regrets? Metro asked.

"Never," he replied, "except for putting my hands in all these traps."

"Sweet Pepper," of the sideshow duo The Monsters of Schlock, reacts as he sticks his arms into animal traps — a record 26 in one minute. THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARRYL DYCK

AIRBNB

City cracks down on short-term rentals

The number of complaints against short-term rentals like Airbnb listings has gone up by almost three times since last year, but the city is well on its way to dealing with properties with complaints against them, said Vancouver's director of licensing.

The city received 55 short-term rental complaints so far this year, compared to 19 complaints in 2015 and only four in 2014. But all properties, except one, involved in this year's complaints are now compliant with city bylaws, said Andreea Toma, director of licensing at the City of Vancouver.

"They have removed their advertisement for short term rental or they are advertising for a minimum of 30 days."

The other option for compliance is for property owners to apply for a hotel or bed and breakfast licence.

Airbnb is cooperating with the city and providing information when necessary, Toma told Metro.

"They're not giving us access to all of their information, but if we do have [a concern] specific to an address, then they do respond and we do have a conversation back and forth on that."

There were more than 5,300 active short-term rental listings in Vancouver as of June 2016, according to the city in a written statement.

Toma says her department will continue to address short-term rental issues on a complaint basis until council adopts new regulations.

"This is prioritized enforcement. We are not enforcing against everybody," she said.

WANYEE LI/METRO

CONCERNS

Priorities for enforcement:

- Short-term rentals in unsafe buildings.
- Short-term rentals in publicly-funded rental housing
- Buildings with multiple listings or where a long-term tenant has been evicted
- Operators running multiple listings

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U.K. expert shrugs off foreign investors

REAL ESTATE

Blames Canada for Vancouver housing crisis

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

Scottish housing expert says Vancouver's tendency to blame the "other" — foreign owners — is misplaced in the city's affordability crisis. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Canada needs to stop blaming "others" for its affordable housing crisis and invest more in cities like Vancouver, according to one international expert.

University of St. Andrews housing economist Duncan Maclennan was speaking on a rental market panel as part of the City of Vancouver's ongoing re:address housing conference on Tuesday when the Scot poked a hole in the common narrative that the city's housing prices are ratcheted up by offshore buyers.

"I have read some of the discussion of Chinese investment in Vancouver and I think it's a classic example of othering, i.e. blaming someone else for what is actually a systemic problem within the Canadian housing system," said Maclennan. "That applies in Toronto and Montreal as well, the inability to respond to market pressures regardless of where they might come from."

Like many jurisdictions, such as the United Kingdom and Australia, Maclennan says Vancouver began to see trouble in the 90s as federal governments were getting out of building housing and leaving things to the market.

Housing prices started outpacing income growth and people eventually realized there was money to be made in the real estate market, spawning a new class of small-time landlords who buy up several properties as investments, squeeze out other would-be buyers and put more upward pressure on prices.

Adding the investment component is what turns a housing boom into a housing bubble, Maclennan said.

Maclennan also had harsh words for how Canada as a country redistributes tax dollars.

"The Canadian context, more than any other context I've seen, is reinforced by fiscal imbalance," he said.

Income and employment growth in cities is what currently drives tax revenue, which ends up in federal and provincial coffers.

But getting those dollars back from those levels of government, "whether for infrastructure or for housing, is much more politicized and complex in Canada than any other system I've seen," he said.

"I happen to believe that in a world that's increasingly dominated by how metropolitan areas perform, there has to be a much closer match of fiscal resources. I think that's a fundamental imbalance of the Canadian system and it's not dealt with well by the political system."

The re:address conference, which is hosting 500 housing experts from around the globe, runs through Oct. 29.

MARIJUANA

Three arrested in dispensary robbery

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

The Vancouver police have arrested three out of four suspects in a violent armed robbery committed against a marijuana compassion club on Oct. 16 — but they won't be returning the recovered marijuana, extracts and hashish that was stolen.

"We could really use the marijuana," said David Malmo-Levine, the president of the Stressed and Depressed Association located on Knight Street at Culloden Street. "It's good marijuana and it's key for our business to survive."

> **We could really use the marijuana. It's good marijuana and it's key for our business to survive.** David Malmo-Levine

Police arrested Darnel Matsui, 28, from Medicine Hat; Hosea Smith, 26, from Calgary; and Cory Robert Ulmer Brown, 20, from Surrey. The three have all been charged with robbery with a firearm as well as various other charges.

During the robbery, the two store employees had guns pointed at them and one of the employees was punched, said Sgt. Brian Montague during an Oct. 25 press conference.

Police have not yet located the female suspect and are asking the public to call 604-717-0613 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 if they have any information.

Montague said police will be returning the stolen cash to Stressed and Depressed, but because marijuana is an illegal substance, the recovered product will be destroyed.

The store has been robbed on two other occasions. After the second robbery, the association installed a buzzer so people could not enter with their faces covered. Now staff will require people to show their ID before they are buzzed in, Malmo-Levine said.

Following the proliferation of marijuana dispensaries across Vancouver, the City of Vancouver introduced new regulations and a limited number of business licences for marijuana businesses in April 2015.

Stressed and Depressed is in the process of applying to the City of Vancouver for a business licence, and had saved up to complete a security check that is required by the city, Malmo-Levine said. The robbery now puts that process in jeopardy.

The dispensary's decision to post security footage on its Facebook page played a part in the arrest, Montague said, although the widespread sharing of the photo and a subsequent video led to a deluge of tips.

"One of the problems we can face, and the reason we hold off sometimes from providing info like CCTV video, if we are inundated with tips it can be a very lengthy process to go through all that," Montague said.

Malmo-Levine said the association initially shared the photographs on Facebook to warn other compassion clubs, but the post's reach ended up extending far beyond that community.

"It got shared like crazy," he said. "I guess people care about that sort of thing and take it upon themselves to do what they can."

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Where are the women?

POLITICS

Pay equity panel gaffe highlights need for better representation

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

The absence of women on most House of Commons committees comes down to "a supply problem," according to Equal Voice.

The federal finance committee took some heat last week when its lone female member was missing from a pre-budget consultation in Charlottetown.

A public delegate tweeted the irony of presenting her pay equity concerns to a panel of men.

Finance committee member and Pickering-Uxbridge MP Jennifer O'Connell had been away that week. Her absence was notable as the only woman on the committee, which has been hearing from public witnesses on budget-related issues.

Conservative MP Lisa Raitt was also a member until recently, when she stepped down to consider a crack at the Tory leadership.

Equal Voice spokeswoman Nancy Peckford said it's not surprising the Conservatives didn't choose a female replacement.

"There's simply not enough women left over among the remaining female members to fill those committees," Peckford said.

There are only 88 women in the House, a mere 26 per cent.

Seventeen of those are Conservative, while 50 are Liberal.

It's a problem that reaches far beyond just one committee.

Most standing committees include only one or two women. And two — the Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics committee and the Industry, Science and Technology committee — have none at all. Only the Status of Women and special pay equity committees have female majorities.

This dismal representation highlights a broader need to get more women into elected office in the first place, Peckford said.

PROTEST

Youth turn backs on Trudeau

Dozens of delegates at a youth labour forum turned their backs Tuesday on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, using body language to express their frustrations with everything from global warming to so-called precarious work.

As Trudeau began taking questions from two of the forum's hosts, some delegates began to heckle and jeer while several rows of young people turned to face the back of the room, prompting harsh words from the prime minister himself.

Their actions sent the wrong signal to the other young people in the room, Trudeau told his detractors.

"It is a little bit frustrating for me to come in, sit down, look forward to hearing from you, talking with you, and seeing a room full of people who are standing in a way that shows they're not listening," he said.

"And I think it reflects poorly on everyone who does want to listen and engage."

While Trudeau was applauded and cheered by some for defending himself, several delegates shouted back, calling the PM a "hypocrite" and holding signs reading "Keep the Promise."

Protesters turn their backs on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in Ottawa on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Many of the delegates were upset with the Liberal government's support for the controversial Trans Pacific Partnership trade deal, as well as Finance Minister Bill Morneau's recent comments about "job churn."

This past weekend, Morneau told Liberal party insiders in Niagara Falls that the government needs to prepare for high turnover and short-term contracts among youth because such jobs are here to stay.

"How do we train and retrain people as they move from job to job to job? Because it's going to happen. We have to accept that," Morneau said.

The comments prompted cries of arrogance from the opposition Conservatives and New Democrats, who accused the finance minister of lacking an understanding of Canada's youth unemployment problem.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ONTARIO

Nurse charged in 8 deaths

Friends and families of elderly residents who died in care facilities in Southwestern Ontario between 2007 and 2014 are reliving their pain all over again.

Police laid eight first-degree charges on Tuesday against registered nurse Elizabeth Tracey Mae Wettlaufer, 49, of Woodstock, who is accused of murdering eight elderly nursing home residents between 2007 and 2014.

All the victims were nursing home residents in the Woodstock and London area over a seven-year period.

At a packed news conference, police said that Wettlaufer allegedly used drugs to end the lives of the eight residents. Police would not say if nursing home records showed that drugs had gone missing.

Police said they believe Wettlaufer also worked at other long-term care facilities in the province. Investigators could not specify which facilities, nor would they speak to a motive.

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FRANCE

Crews demolish migrants' dwellings

A migrant enjoys the moment before leaving a makeshift camp near Calais, France, on Tuesday. EMILIO MORENATTI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crews in hard hats and orange jumpsuits on Tuesday started dismantling a makeshift camp in France that has become a symbol of Europe's migrant crisis while thousands of people remained there waiting to be relocated.

The workers used their gloved hands to tear down flimsy plywood shelters, tarp-covered huts and other temporary buildings at the camp in the port city of Calais known as "the jungle." Backhoes, construction dumpsters and trucks carted off the debris.

The demolition took place under the watch of police officers as authorities are emptying the camp of an estimated 6,300 people who have been living there, down from a height of 10,000 this summer.

"I'm very sad. It's our home here … We can't feel anything, even life." Ahmed Anwar, 28, of Sudan, said as backhoes tore up the first dwellings. "No one cares about us." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif talks to a survivor of an overnight attack on the Police Training Academy at a hospital in Quetta, Pakistan on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan still reeling from assault

TERRORISM

Volatile mix of militant groups and sectarianism causes bloodshed

Pakistan is reeling from yet another deadly assault, after militants wearing suicide vests rampaged through a police academy in the southwestern city of Quetta, battling for four hours before blowing themselves up and leaving 61 people dead.

The ability of militants to breach security and kill with ferocity has confounded the country. Extremists have been carrying out numerous attacks for years, killing military personnel, police, school children and worshippers kneeling in prayer.

One reason is the sheer number and variety of extremist groups, some of which have been battling the military in a bid to bring down the government.

Another intertwined reason is the state's complicated relationship with extremists. The powerful military has a history of using some militants to target neighbour and rival India, and successive governments have sought to win political support from hard-liners by promoting and cultivating extremist ideologies. Then there is also Pakistan's connection with generations of militants involved in the more than 30 years of constant warfare in neighbouring Afghanistan.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

When the Soviet Union Russians invaded Afghanistan in 1979, Pakistan became the staging arena for the mujahedeen, or Islamic holy warriors, who fought the Russian occupation in one of the last great Cold War battles.

MILITANT GROUPS

Now a multitude of militant groups are flourishing, championing a variety of causes.

STATE RESPONSE

Despite repeated denials, Pakistan's army is still often accused of being selective in which groups it cracks down on. Pakistan's government has devised a National Action Plan aimed at curbing militancy but many complain its implementation has been erratic.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Malfunctioning ride kills four at theme park

Four people including a young mother and her brother were killed Tuesday after a river rapids ride malfunctioned at a popular theme park on Australia's east coast, officials said.

Two men and two women died while on the ride at Dreamworld, a park on Queensland state's Gold Coast, Queensland police officer Tod Reid told reporters.

Two children who were in the raft were hospitalized, Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, October 26, 2016

TIM QUERENGESSER ON CBC'S UNFAIR ADVANTAGE

New federal funding isn't paying for journalists in the hinterlands. It's further solidifying the Corp.'s dominance of the mobile news pie, to the loss of everyone.

Back in June 2014, when the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation lost the rights for Hockey Night in Canada, Canada's private news media's future was set, more or less, to "Screwed."

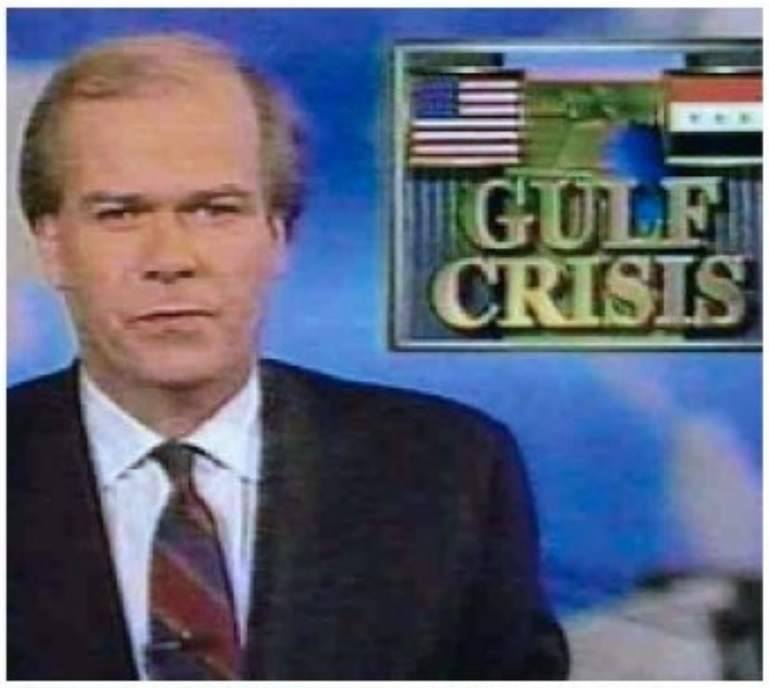
The Ceeb was losing its fattest revenue vein and entering survival mode just as news reportage was migrating to smartphones from newspapers, televisions, radios and desktop computers. It was then, as the broadcaster looked to reinvent itself, that all of us should have demanded its mandate be revisited — for every other news organization's sake.

Two years later, without that re-examination, the CBC's future is healthy while its competitors in privately owned print news cling to life. The reason: the CBC's wholesale migration to the mobile web, by way of which our tax dollars are underwriting print news (and now even newspaper-like opinion) for the price — zero — that most Canadians are willing to pay to read such stuff on their iPhones.

Last month, Canada lost the 111-year-old weekly print edition of Maclean's (it will now only publish weekly online, monthly in print) as part of the slow-motion cull in print news caused by advertising dollars flocking to other platforms. And last week, Postmedia announced it will lance 20 per cent from its salary load, which means more reporter losses on top of the 800 full-time jobs it has already shed in 2016.

Meanwhile, the Liberals have goosed the CBC's budget by $75 million this year and $150 million in years to come.

Is it really in Canada's best interest that a taxpayer-funded corporation is helping accelerate private media's demise?



1991 WAS ALONG TIME AGO The last time the CBC's mandate was revised, Peter Mansbridge looked like this.
TWITTER

Ordinarily, I'd celebrate this with a craft beer during my nightly enjoyment of As it Happens. But I can't.

The new federal money isn't saving the mythical, journalists-in-the-hinterlands CBC. It's further solidifying the Corp.'s dominance of the Canadian mobile news pie, to the loss of everyone, including the non-broadcast newspapers and news websites, which are so vital to Canadian democracy.

And, yes, that means Metro, too.

The CBC's mandate was last revised in 1991. Unsurprisingly, the words "digital" and "online" don't appear. Instead, the mandate notes the CBC "should provide radio and television services" (in other words, the "broadcast" part of CBC) and should deliver these services "by the most appropriate and efficient means."

Let's think about that. Radio and television services can be many things, but they definitely aren't written web stories aimed at smartphone readers (though, to be fair, the CBC effectively used the web as an actual broadcast tool with the recent Rio Olympics, during which Canadians web-streamed hundreds of hours of coverage).

So when the CBC moves to increasingly monopolize the national, print-based smartphone audience, devaluing what the public thinks such news costs to produce, while simultaneously slashing regional newsrooms (in Edmonton and myriad other smaller markets, it's a running joke that few hold the high-pay title of "reporter" any longer), I have to cry foul.

While other media struggle to find new ways to pay journalists, the CBC simply continues to lure talent with a publicly funded alternative. Recently, it announced it will soon pay high word rates for opinion columns from outside contributors. Result: The usual publications in which I'd pay more to read this more exclusive, analytical stuff — The Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, the National Post and a million of their smaller-market siblings — all just received a publicly funded kick while they're already down.

Let's be clear: Private media has to figure out its own future. As Postmedia's recent numbers show, print advertising isn't going to save us. But as we reinvent ourselves, is it really in Canada's best interest that a taxpayer-funded corporation is helping accelerate our demise — one so seemingly precipitous that some have suggested newspapers also receive public subsidies?

No. The CBC's mandate needs to reflect the reality of today, not 1991, when a floppy disk could hold just 2.8 megabytes, Knowlton Nash had just retired and the worldwide web was a thing only academics talked about. The CBC's mandate says "broadcaster"; the CBC's actions say otherwise.

Tim Querengesser is the managing editor of Metro Edmonton.

VICKY MOCHAMA

Modest proposal: Black women do all the voting

Beyonce's Formation album and tour, Simon Biles at the Olympics, Michelle Obama's entire existence — black women have given the world so much. So: what if everyone else gave back and let only black women vote?

I find myself in the odd position of casually disenfranchising 90 per cent of Americans to suggest that, perhaps, only black women should go to the polls. Since we've learned that we're comfortable with fascism as long as it's entertaining, I'll make my case.

When I wrote about "nasty woman" t-shirts being a white woman's privilege, I started thinking about how black women actually figure into the presidential election. For black women, it's really not a simple choice. The Clintons do not have a strong legacy of supporting black communities. From Bill's community- and wealth-crushing welfare and crime legislation to Hillary's use of the term "super-predator" to describe black convicts to, more recently, her 2008 campaign's racially coded messaging (e.g., bragging about her support among whites), there are reasons for black women to not vote for her.

It's why a lot of black women joined the hashtag #GirlIGuessImWithHer. Clinton might not demilitarize the police but she at least knows that not all African-Americans live in the inner cities.

Sure, other groups are up to the task of saving democracy. Hispanic voters, most millennial groups and women overall could handily elect Clinton. But only black women would hand Donald Trump a truly humbling loss — a huge defeat, the hugest ever.

According to a YouGov poll, 90 per cent of black women will vote for Clinton (this, despite her having once whipped and nae-nae'd). I'm not sure what's going on with the other 10 per cent, so I'll guess that they're planning a write-in vote for any member of the Obama family, including Bo and Sunny, the dogs.

Ninety-four per cent of black women voted for Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012. In the primaries, Clinton won over 85 per cent of black female votes in states like Texas, Alabama and Georgia. Black women will ride-or-die for Democratic candidates.

The Mothers of the Movement, women who've lost family members to police violence, spoke at the Democratic convention and at campaign stops. Campaign Zero's Brittney Packnett endorsed Clinton. And even black women who don't ride for Clinton per se still voted for her. For example, #BlackLivesMatter co-founder Alicia Garza said to Elle magazine, "I voted for Clinton, but I don't support Clinton. I'm not 'with her' and I don't and won't endorse her."

Considering the threat to democracy and White House décor that Trump represents, let's dispense with suspense. He's going to claim it was rigged; we might as well rig it.

Everyone else can rest easy at home. Black women have got this.

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Toronto studio Frontier designed the 'world's best tuque,' a $200 hat that mimics the fur of a caribou

RECIPE

These fun ideas go beyond the regular treats

These 2 recipes are devilishly delicious, and the kids will have fun making them too.

Pineapple, Carrot and Apple Juice

The kids will never guess this sweet, wicked-looking brew is healthy.

The impressively frothy head comes from juicing the fruits and vegetable from scratch, while we've got the carrots to thank for the thematically appropriate colour.

The result is terrifyingly tasty, especially served chilled in a mad scientist's beaker!

Servings: 1.

Ingredients:
- 1/4 pineapple, peeled
- 2 carrots, peeled
- 1 green apple, cored

Directions:
1. Cut the fruit and carrots into pieces, if needed, and process through a juicer. Use chilled fruit or add ice cubes for a refreshing juice.

Marshmallow Ghosts

A mere 15 minutes is all it takes to scare up a batch of marshmallow ghosts, plus a little waiting time as they cool (you've got trick-or-treaters to cater to anyway).

Gelatin is the active ingredient here, whipped up with corn syrup and sugar until frothy and silky smooth. The classic marshmallow flavour comes from vanilla extract, and black food colouring gives the pillowy ghosts haunted expressions.

Spooky snacks

This sweet, wicked-looking brew is healthy, too, with pineapple, carrot and apple juice. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

These marshmallow ghosts are a fun treat for little hands.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Prep: 15 minutes
Cooking: 2 minutes
Cooling: 2 hours
Servings: Makes 6 large marshmallows

Ingredients for the marshmallows:
- Vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp gelatin
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) water
- 1/3 cup (70 g) sugar
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) light corn syrup
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup (35 g) icing sugar
- 1/4 cup (35 g) cornstarch
- 6 long lollipop sticks or coffee stirrers

Ingredients for the icing:
- 1/4 cup (35 g) icing sugar
- A few drops of water
- Black gel food colouring

Directions for the marshmallows:
1. Lightly oil six ice-pop moulds.

2. In a small saucepan, sprinkle the gelatin over the water and let bloom for 5 minutes.

3. Add the sugar and warm over low heat, stirring until the sugar and gelatin have dissolved. Pour into a bowl.

4. Add the corn syrup and vanilla and beat with an electric mixer until it forms a soft meringue. With a pastry bag fitted with a large tip, fill the ice-pop moulds.

5. Insert a lollipop stick at the centre of each mould and refrigerate for 2 hours.

6. On a plate, combine the icing sugar and cornstarch.

7. Unmould the marshmallows and gently roll in the icing sugar mixture. Shake to remove any excess.

8. Place the ghosts in a tall glass filled with small black and orange pebbles.

Directions for the icing:
1. In a bowl, combine the sugar, water and food colouring.

2. Use a paper cone or a small pastry bag to pipe the eyes on the ghosts.

Keep the marshmallows well wrapped, at room temperature, until ready to serve.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Vancouver-born Madeleine Thien has won the 2016 Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction for her fourth book, Do Not Say We Have Nothing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A very big day for acclaimed writer

AWARDS

Madeleine Thien wins Governor General's prize

For writers, few days get bigger than this.

Madeleine Thien Tuesday won the 2016 Governor General's Literary Award for fiction, worth $25,000, for her novel Do Not Say We Have Nothing. Later, the Montreal-based writer attended the 2016 Man Booker Prize ceremony in London as one of six finalists — and one of two Canadians — vying for the £50,000 ($81,000) award. She was in pole position to end a 14-year Man Booker drought for Canada, according to some bookies who had her listed as 2:1 to win.

Instead, Paul Beatty, author of The Sellout, a satirical novel about modern slavery and a race trial, made history as the first American to win the prestigious prize.

The other Canadian in this year's race was Montreal-born David Szalay for All That Man Is, who was joined on the list by Scotland's Graeme Macrae Burnet for His Bloody Project; Deborah Levy for Hot Milk; and Ottessa Moshfegh for Eileen. Like Thien, Szalay has a Montreal connection — he was born there, but moved to England when he was a year old and now lives in Hungary.

The last Canadian to win both the GG and the Booker prize in the same year was Toronto-Sri Lankan writer Michael Ondaatje for The English Patient, in 1992.

Since, then, two other Canadians have won: Yann Martel was the last in 2002 for The Life of Pi. Margaret Atwood also won in 2000 for The Blind Assassin — along with Ondaatje these are the only Canadian writers ever to win the prize.

For Thien, 42, the impact of Do Not Say We Have Nothing, her fourth book, is astonishing; along with the GG and Booker prizes, it's also been short-listed for the $100,000 Scotiabank Giller Prize which will be awarded on Nov. 7, and the Quebec Writer's Federation Literary Award.

"I think I might be at the limit of excitement," she said in September, the week she found out she was on the Giller and Booker shortlists.

The story begins in Canada where a Chinese family takes in a young woman who fled China after the Tiananmen Square protests, but is mostly set in China, and follows the lives of two generations, musicians whose lives were affected by Mao's Cultural Revolution.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ENROUTE

Vancouver eatery best in Canada

Joel Watanabe's restaurant Kissa Tanto, with a blend of Italian and Japanese cuisines, has been named Canada's best new restaurant by enRoute magazine.

It's not the first time Watanabe and business partner Tannis Ling have made the top 10 list. In 2010, the team's French-Chinese brasserie Bao Bei was second.

"We're all pretty thrilled," Watanabe, 40, said from Vancouver. His 1960s Tokyo jazz bar-inspired Kissa Tanto — which means House of Plenty — is located in Old Chinatown on the second floor of a faded building. The 74-seat space opened in the spring.

Kissa Tanto in Vancouver. CONTRIBUTED

"There's a bit of a journey getting into this space, but I think people are usually blown away when they get in here," he added, explaining the decor "really harkens to somewhere that is not Vancouver so you feel literally transported, I think, when you're in this room. You feel New York or L.A. in its heyday."

A blend of cuisines is not surprising for a chef who grew up in Ottawa dining on multicultural cuisine — French Canadian from his mother's influence and Japanese from his father, while his grandfather was Corsican.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

metro WHEELS
Your essential daily news
The new Honda Civic Si will debut at the 2016 L.A. Auto Show next month

The Civic hatchback, all grown up

REVIEW

First hatch in 17 years delivers just like the sedan

Dan Ilika
AutoGuide.com

It's hard to believe it's been almost 17 years since a hatchback version of the Honda Civic was last sold in North America.

Sure, there was Honda's half-hearted attempt at reviving the beloved body style in the early 2000s with the niche three-door Civic Si, but even that was discontinued more than a decade ago, leaving a huge gap in the automaker's lineup. But Honda is ready to make up for lost time with an all-new Civic hatch aimed at fun and function.

In bringing the Civic hatch back to North American shores, Honda has cranked up the car's practicality with the addition of two rear doors. It rides on the same platform as the sedan and coupe models, but measures about 114 millimetres shorter than both, giving the Civic hatch a sportier stance than its stablemates — its wheels sits closer to the corners.

As expected, the Civic's continuously variable transmission displays a moderate amount of the 'rubber band' effect typical when the pedal is pressed hard, but quiets down when cruising.

Driving the twisting roads of Ontario's cottage country put the Civic hatchback's taut chassis to the test and it responded well, behaving more like the coupe than the sedan. Steering feel is still a little numb, but the variable-ratio setup helps tighten it up as the car reaches higher speeds and responds well to input.

The Civic hatch drives a bit like a mash-up of the coupe and sedan, feeling sporty enough to have fun while offering the all-important commuter comfort that's key in this segment.

The front of the Civic hatch's cabin looks and feels a lot like the sedan's, and that's because it is a lot like the sedan's. It looks every bit as modern as the rest of the Civic family but it could benefit from some soft-touch materials in place of the hard plastics found on the doors and dash.

When it comes to safety features, the Civic leads in the segment. Features like cruise control and automatic headlights are standard, while the Honda Sensing suite adds forward collision warning with collision mitigation braking, lane-keep assist and adaptive cruise control.

The car plays into the nostalgia of an entire generation, stirring up high school memories of unadulterated fun. It's a much more mature car now, so it's not the same Civic hatchback we grew up with, but rather a grown up car that's still fun and not too grown up.

THE CHECKLIST | 2017 HONDA CIVIC HATCHBACK

THE BASICS

Engine: 1.5L turbocharged four-cylinder
Transmission: Six-speed manual; continuously-variable auto
Power: 174 hp, 167 lb-ft of torque (manual)
Fuel Economy (litres/100 km: 8.0 city, 6.2 hwy (manual); 7.7 city, 6.0 (CVT)
Price: Starts at $21,390

LOVE IT
- It's a hatchback!
- Manual transmission
- Cargo capacity

LEAVE IT
- Cheap base interior
- Still no volume knob

CAR CARE

Without fuel, an empty tank is the least of your problems

Sami Haj-Assaad
AutoGuide.com

Some drivers see their car's fuel gauge as a nagging parent; it lights up urging you to refuel like your mom or dad would remind you to clean your room.

But don't ignore your car's insistence on refueling, because you can damage your car by running it on empty.

We've all been in the situation where you're driving along, possibly singing a song, when suddenly "DING" a low fuel warning light pops up and ruins all your fun because you have to take a pit stop or detour and get gas.

You're either the type of driver that gets really nervous or you're the complete opposite, relaxed because "empty" is just a guideline or friendly suggestion.

Here's what you should know, regardless of which type of driver you are. You can use your warning light along with your car's average fuel economy to calculate your remaining range, but it's a good idea to not risk running the car until it's dry.

While standing on the side of the road with your empty car waiting for a tow truck or walking to the nearest gas station and returning with a jerry can is embarrassing enough, there's another serious concern that could impact your wallet. And it will be way more expensive than a tank of gas.

In your fuel tank, there is a contraption called a fuel pump, which sends the fuel from the tank to the engine. The fuel pump relies on the gasoline in the tank to keep it cool and lubricated.

10 to 15

The warning light indicates that the fuel has reached the reserve level, which is about 10 to 15 per cent of your tank's total capacity.

Running the car with a low tank means that the pump isn't staying as lubricated as it should and is at risk of overheating. The obvious downside to this is premature failure of the pump.

That's a pretty expensive repair. Failing fuel pumps will lead to poor performance, particularly with a car not accelerating smoothly or starting at all.

Your fuel pump also has a fuel filter, which can quickly get dirty if you drive with a low tank.

Since any sediment or dirt sinks to the bottom of the tank, the fuel filter could end up getting blocked or could take in dirty fuel, which also has costly consequences.

Ignoring your car's low fuel warning is generally a bad idea, and running your car on empty can cause serious and costly problems to your car's fuel system.

Keep that in mind the next time your car nags you to visit the gas station.

This Mustang's a brick house

EUROPE

Germany looks to ban internal combustion engine by 2030

A resolution has passed allowing only zero-emissions vehicles will for sale on the market after 2030. The resolution encourages the EU to "review the current practices of taxation and dues with regard to a stimulation of emission-free mobility."
JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

WHEELS ROUNDUP
News driving the auto industry brought to you by AutoGuide.com

LEGO

Ford Mustang, piece by piece

Built from 200,000 LEGO pieces, LEGOLAND Florida has created a life-sized replica of a 1964 Ford Mustang V8 coupe. The project consists of 194,900 standard LEGO bricks and DUPLO bricks, measuring more than 15 feet long, nearly 6 feet wide and over 4 feet tall. It tips the scales at 1,712 pounds. The replica also includes a virtual horn and the sounds of a real Mustang engine, which is a first for a life-size LEGO vehicle. The project first debuted at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and now has a permanent display outside the Ford Driving School attraction at LEGOLAND Florida Resort.
JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

JAPAN

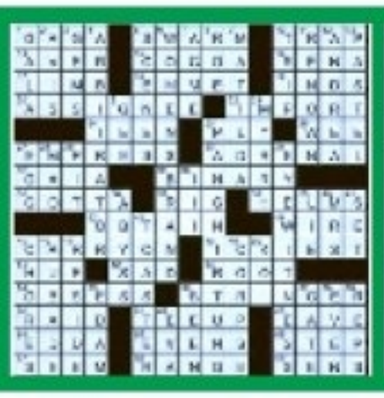
This smart car was fit to print

Honda teamed up with 3D printer Kabuku Inc. to unveil an urban delivery vehicle at CEATEC Japan 2016, featuring 3D-printed body panels. The creation was built for Toshimaya, a company that needed a subcompact van to deliver shortbread in its hometown of Kamakura, which has very narrow roads.
JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



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7	8	9	5	6	2	3	4	1
2	6	3	1	7	4	9	5	8
8	3	6	9	4	5	1	7	2
1	2	5	7	8	6	4	3	9
9	7	4	2	1	3	8	6	5

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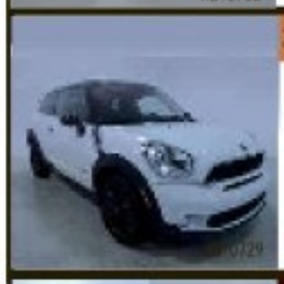
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7 VEHICLES WITH THE TOP TECH

These cars scored the highest customer satisfaction for their categories in the inaugural J.D. Power Tech Experience Index Study, which surveyed over 17,000 consumers, who purchased or leased a new 2016 vehicle. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

Compact Car: Kia Forte

The **Kia Forte** scored highest in the Compact segment, followed by the Scion iM and the Mitsubishi Outlander.

Small Car

The **Hyundai Tucson** received the highest marks. Scion iA and the Fiat 500X ranked second and third.

Midsize Car

Chevy Camaro owners win out here. The Kia Sorento and Nissan Murano tied for second place.

Large Car

The **Nissan Maxima** scored highest. The Chevy Silverado Light Duty and GMC Sierra Light Duty follow.

Compact Premium

Owners of the popular **BMW 4 Series** love their tech. The Lexus IS and the Lincoln MKC ranked second and third.

Small Premium Car

The **BMW 2 Series** scored highest here. The Audi A3 comes in second, with the BMW X1 scoring third.

Midsize Premium Car

The **Hyundai Genesis** claim top honors, followed by the Cadillac CTS and Mercedes-Benz GLE-Class.

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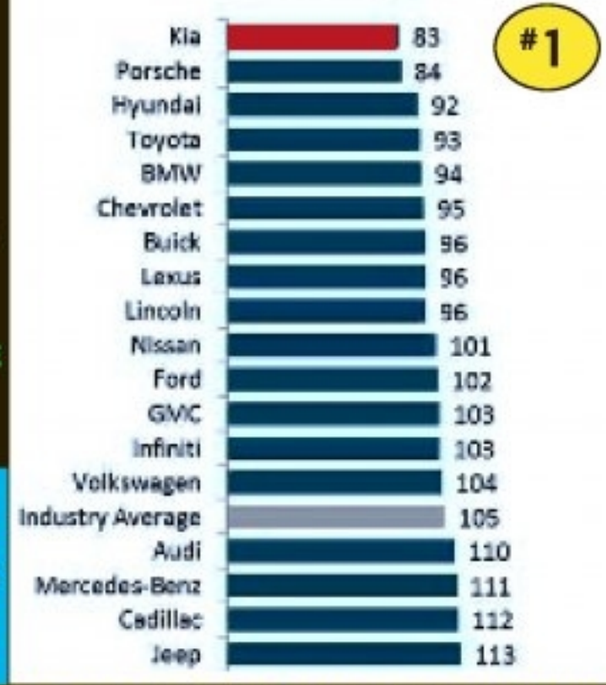
J.D POWER
2016 U.S. INITIAL QUALITY STUDY (IQS)

2016 Nameplate IQS Ranking
Problems per 100 Vehicles (PP100)

#1



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Taking Canadian basketball to new heights

Danilo Djuricic is considered one of the best shooters in the world for his age. He recently announced his commitment to Harvard University, which had been recruiting him since Grade 9. CONTRIBUTED

WE THE NORTH

Who's holding court? These homegrown ballers have got next

Sean Deasy

It's no secret basketball is on the rise in Canada. It seems only fitting, since the sport's inventor, Dr. James Naismith, came from the Ottawa Valley.

Today, from neighbourhood playgrounds to pro arenas, more Canadian players are embracing a game that for so many years was overshadowed by hockey and, well, every other major professional sport. Now Canada can boast world-class athletes and coaches, who are honing their skills right at home and taking their country to new levels. Here's a glimpse of just some of the homegrown stars helping to put Canada on the basketball map.

Kia Nurse: Rising talent

Kia Nurse, a 20-year-old guard for the Connecticut Huskies and the Canadian national team from Hamilton, Ont., participated at the 2014 FIBA World Championship and won a gold medal at the 2015 Pan American Games. Seems young for such accomplishments? Nurse has always outperformed for her age. She began dribbling a basketball at age four, and was playing in a competitive league by age seven.

As a teenager Nurse won 10 provincial championships between her high school and club teams. Still in high school, she was invited to train with Canada's national team as a future prospect. Nurse played so well she earned a spot on the squad. Now she's set to take her game — and Canada — to new heights.

Dwight Powell: True power

Talk about real power — both brain and brawn. Not only is Dwight Powell a power forward for the Canadian national team and for the Dallas Mavericks, he's also a graduate of prestigious Stanford University.

He grew playing basketball in Toronto inspired by the Raptors and Canadian icon Steve Nash, but didn't get serious until middle school. He was a standout in high school in Florida, and went on to an illustrious college career. As a senior Powell earned first-team All-Pac-12 honours for the second straight year, and was named to the NCAA All-South Regional Team. He was also named the Pac-12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Clockwise from top left: Kia Nurse, Dwight Powell, Alyssa Jerome and Natalie Achonwa. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Now he's looking to help Canada grow in stature on the global basketball stage.

Alyssa Jerome: Canadian U-18 phenomenon

What do you do growing up with a passion for basketball? You compete with anyone and everyone to get better. That's just what teenage phenom Alyssa Jerome has done in her hometown of Toronto. Did it work?

Jerome tried out for her provincial team — and made it. She then tried out for — and made — the national team. And in just her second year, she led the U-17s to a world championship. Now she's the No. 1 ranked U-18 player in Canada — at just 16. Now she's poised to take her game — and her studies — to the next level south of the border: She has just committed to Stanford University.

Danilo Djuricic: Shooting star

This is a baller whose shooting for the stars. Not only is six-foot-eight Danilo Djuricic a key player for the future of Canadian basketball, he's also one accomplished young man. The A-student recently announced his commitment to Harvard University, which has been recruiting him since he was in Grade 9. Considered one of the best shooters in the world for his age, Djuricic helped guide the Canadian team to a silver medal at the U-18 FIBA Americas in 2015. Djuricic, 17, who grew up in Brampton, Ont., was inspired by other hardworking Brampton ballers like Anthony Bennett. The forward is looking to continue to polish his game and, after graduation, has dreams of making it in the pro league.

Natalie Achonwa: Power broker

Natalie Achonwa knows how to get things done. Not only was the forward selected ninth overall in the WNBA draft by the Indiana Fever, but at just 23 she's already a two-time Olympian who has won three international medals with Team Canada. She is also the youngest player ever selected to the Canadian senior national team at age 16.

Achonwa was recruited as the first ever international player on the Notre Dame Fighting Irish women's basketball team. In 2011, Achonwa was named to the big east all-freshman team and was selected big east freshman of the week in her freshman season. In her junior season, she was named as an honorable mention for the Associated Press all-America team.

The Guelph-Ont.,-born baller is now looking forward to what the Canadian women's team is about to unleash on the rest of the basketball world.

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Investor Chris Hansen and the group looking to bring the NBA back to Seattle have offered to pay for a new arena with private funds

NBA

Cavaliers open title defence with a win

LeBron James had his 43rd career triple-double, Kyrie Irving scored 29 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers, who raised their championship banner before the game, beat the New York Knicks 117-88 on Tuesday night in the NBA season opener.

James scored 19 points and added 11 rebounds and 14 assists in front of a raucous home crowd that was on its feet from the pre-game ceremony until late in the game, celebrating the city's first championship in 52 years.

James, who spoke to the crowd before the game, continued his perfect record on ring nights. He was 2-0 when the Miami Heat players were presented with their championship rings.

Irving scored 19 points in the third quarter, when Cleveland used a 20-4 run to take a 74-53 lead. Kevin Love scored 23 for the Cavaliers.

Carmelo Anthony led New York with 19 points and Derrick Rose had 17.

Cavaliers guard Iman Shumpert was taken to the locker-room late in the third quarter with concussion-like symptoms after colliding with Kristaps Porzingis.

The basketball game was only part of a big night in town. The Cleveland Indians played Game 1 of the World Series against the Chicago Cubs across the street at Progressive Field. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TUESDAY In Cleveland

CAVALIERS	KNICKS
117	88

The Cavaliers raise their championship banner before their game against the Knicks on Tuesday. EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Portland pair charged

Portland Timbers goalkeeper Jake Gleeson and defender Liam Ridgewell face charges of driving under the influence after an accident in Lake Oswego, Ore.

The MLS teammates were booked into Clackamas County Jail and posted bond. Both are to appear in court on Nov. 16. Police said Gleeson rear-ended another vehicle Monday and called Ridgewell, who arrived later to help. Neither Gleeson nor the driver of the vehicle he hit was injured. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL honours three

B.C.'s Emmanuel Arceneaux, Hamilton's John Chick and Calgary's Jerome Messam were named CFL top performers of the week on Tuesday.

Arceneaux scored two TDs and caught eight passes for 132 yards in the Lions' 32-25 victory over Edmonton. Chick had two sacks and forced a fumble in Hamilton's 39-36 overtime win over Ottawa.

Messam rushed for 111 yards on 10 carries in Calgary's 31-13 victory over Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cleveland's Francisco Lindor steals a base ahead of Cubs second baseman Javier Baez during Game 1 of the World Series on Tuesday night in Cleveland. The Indians won 6-0. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

Indians take charge in dominant opener

WORLD SERIES

Kluber and Co. blank Cubbies as Perez hits pair of homers

Corey Kluber got the Cleveland Indians off to a great start and Roberto Perez finished off the Chicago Cubs in their first World Series game since 1945.

Kluber pitched neatly into the seventh inning, Perez hit two home runs and the Indians beat the Cubs 6-0 in the opener Tuesday night. AL Championship Series MVP Andrew Miller escaped a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the seventh and got out of trouble in the eighth, preserving a 3-0 lead.

In a matchup between the teams with baseball's longest championship droughts, the Indians scored twice in the first inning off October ace Jon Lester and were on their way.

Perez drove in four runs — he became the first No. 9 batter to homer twice in a Series game, and the first Indians player to accomplish the feat. He hit a three-run drive to put it away.

Francisco Lindor added three hits, helping Cleveland manager Terry Francona to improve to 9-0 in the Series. Francona's success includes sweeps by his Boston teams in 2004 and '07.

The Game 1 winner has taken the title in the last six Series and 17 of 19.

Trevor Bauer starts Game 2 for the Indians on Wednesday night against Jake Arrieta. With rain in the forecast, the start time was moved up an hour to 7:08 p.m. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAME 1 In Cleveland

6	0

Bauer's pinkie not an issue any more

The last time the baseball world caught a glimpse of Trevor Bauer's mangled pinkie finger on his right hand, it was grotesquely dripping blood onto the pitching rubber in Toronto during the AL Championship Series.

The Cleveland Indians pitcher is confident the mound will be blood-free when he starts Game 2 of the World Series on Wednesday night against the Chicago Cubs. Bauer tested the finger — notoriously hurt while he was tinkering with a drone — during a simulated game on Monday. He wore gauze over the finger — a no-no during an actual game — just to see if it could withstand the pressure placed on it when Bauer grips the ball and lets it rip.

When Bauer unwrapped the finger after throwing about 20 pitches, he exhaled.

"We took it off and it was completely white, so it was a non-issue," Bauer said.

That was hardly the case in Game 3 of the ALCS, when Bauer lasted all of two outs and 21 pitches, the still fresh wound ripping open and caking Bauer's jersey, pants and portions of the mound in blood. The Indians won anyway, relying on six relievers to get the final 25 outs in a 4-2 victory. Bauer is confident he'll be able to carry more of a workload this time around against Chicago's Jake Arrieta.

"I'm prepared," said Bauer, who went 12-8 with a 4.26 ERA in the regular season. "I'm going to go out there and execute to the best level of my ability, and it's going to be what it's going to be." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL SENATORS EASILY SINK CANUCKS Ottawa Senators left wing Ryan Dzingel, front centre, fights for control of the puck with Canucks defenceman Philip Larsen during first-period NHL action in Vancouver on Tuesday night. Ottawa won 3-0. THE CANADIAN PRESS/JONATHAN HAYWARD

NHL

Officials' Olympic inspection in S. Korea

National Hockey League representatives are in South Korea to inspect Olympic facilities as the league mulls a decision on whether to let its players appear for a sixth consecutive Olympics in Pyeongchang.

Pyeongchang's organizing committee said the NHL delegation led by vice-president of international strategy Lynn White and facilities operation manager Dan Craig will make inspections on Thursday and Friday of facilities in Gangneung, a city near Pyeongchang which will host the ice hockey tournament during the 2018 Winter Games.

They will be joined NHL Players' Association officials Sandra Monteiro and Mathieu Schneider and the International Ice Hockey Federation's Hannes Ederer and Christian Hofstetter, the organizing committee said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL IN BRIEF

Stamkos' 4-point night leads Lightning over Leafs

Steven Stamkos wasted little time Tuesday night reintroducing himself to his hometown.

The Tampa Bay star scored on his first shift of the game, and finished with two goals and two assists as the Lightning went on to beat the Maple Leafs 7-3 in Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flames cruise past Blues

Brian Elliott stopped 23 shots in his return to St. Louis, Johnny Gaudreau and Sam Bennett each had a goal and an assist and the Calgary Flames beat the Blues 4-1 on Tuesday. Dennis Wideman and Deryk Engelland also scored.

Kevin Shattenkirk scored for the Blues and Carter Hutton made 26 saves.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sid doesn't skip a beat

NHL

Crosby scores, leads Pens to W in return from concussion

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby is just happy to be back playing hockey again.

His teammates feel the same way, as a goal from Crosby in his first appearance of the season was all the Penguins needed to overcome a slow start.

Crosby jump-started a comeback as the Pittsburgh Penguins rallied from an early two-goal deficit to beat the Florida Panthers 3-2 on Tuesday night.

"We started off behind the 8-ball there getting down, but we stayed in it and had a big second half," Crosby said.

Crosby, who scored on the power play, missed the team's first six games with a concussion.

Carl Hagelin and Eric Fehr also scored for the Penguins, who extended a seven-game unbeaten streak against the Panthers.

Marc-Andre Fleury, who has started the first seven games of the season for Pittsburgh, stopped 20 shots. Matt Murray, who backstopped the Penguins to a Stanley Cup in June, served as the backup to Fleury after missing the first six games with a broken hand.

Reilly Smith scored a power-play goal and Mark Pysyk also scored for the Panthers, who have lost 11 of 12 against the Penguins in Pittsburgh.

James Reimer made 19 saves in his second start of the season.

Panthers forward Jaromir Jagr returned to Pittsburgh where he won two Stanley Cups and five scoring titles, totalling 1,079 points in 806 games from 1990-01.

The Penguins honoured Jagr, the No. 5 pick in the 1990 NHL draft, during Tuesday's morning skate with a commemorative plaque made out of material from the Civic Arena roof. The 44-year-old Jagr, who is in his 23rd NHL season, ranks third all-time in NHL history in goals and points.

"For the most part, it was a good game, especially the first two periods," Panthers coach Gerard Gallant said. "I thought we played hard and played really well, but then we let it get away from us."

Crosby cut the Panthers' lead to 2-1 in the second period. Crosby, who was wide open in the slot, had to reach for a pass from Evgeni Malkin, but recovered to whip a shot from the slot over Reimer's shoulder.

"I had some time, so you want to make sure you put that one in when you have that much time," Crosby said.

Hagelin tied it in the third when he sent a shot underneath Reimer's arm during a 2-on-1.

Fehr put the Penguins in front for good when he one-timed a pass from Tom Kuhnhackl between Reimer's legs.

Crosby, the two-time MVP and reigning Conn Smythe Trophy winner, hadn't played since sustaining a concussion in practice earlier this month.

Crosby participated in a full-contact practice Monday for the first time since suffering his third concussion in six years. And while Crosby called his participation in practice a major milestone in his recovery, he still feels there's more to improve upon as he works his way back.

"I've been skating on my own, so it's tough to get in any practices or game situations," Crosby said. "I kind of expect that, but I feel like things kind of slowed down as the game went on."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Penguins centre Sidney Crosby skates over Panthers right-winger Shane Harper on Tuesday.

FRED VUICH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TUESDAY In Pittsburgh

3	2
PENGUINS	PANTHERS

1,635

Jaromir Jagr played in his 1,635th game, tying Scott Stevens for seventh all-time.

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LEAGUE CUP

Liverpool and Spurs through

Liverpool striker Daniel Sturridge and Arsenal winger Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain both scored twice as the experienced players secured passage for their youthful teams into the quarterfinals of the League Cup on Tuesday.

Sturridge, who has failed to score in seven Premier League matches this season, has only found joy in front of goal in England's second-tier knockout competition when top-flight typically deploy weaker teams.

Sturridge's double eliminated Tottenham with a 2-1 victory at Anfield, his first Liverpool goals since also netting twice in the League Cup in August.

It was a smoother night for Arsenal against Reading, despite only beating the second-tier League Championship club 2-0. Oxlade-Chamberlain poked the ball through defender Tyler Blackett's legs into the corner of the net to put Arsenal ahead in the 33rd minute. A deflected shot from the England international doubled Arsenal's lead in the 78th. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Messi showing no signs of slowing

SOCCER

Barca genius is outscoring Madrid's top trio this season

By himself, Lionel Messi has already scored more than Real Madrid's top three forwards combined.

The Barcelona star is off to one of the best starts of his career with 14 goals in 11 matches, two more than what Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale and Karim Benzema have netted so far with Madrid. And Messi has done it despite being sidelined for three weeks because of an injury.

"Messi has been superb," Barcelona coach Luis Enrique said simply. The Argentina forward hadn't started a season with so many goals since 2011-12, when he scored 14 times in 10 matches.

So far, Messi has already scored eight more goals than he did last season at the same point. He has two hat tricks and is the leading scorer in both the Spanish league and the Champions League. In his last six games, he has scored 11 goals, with six coming in the three games he played since recovering from a right groin strain. Messi's rivals at Madrid have not come close to him this season.

Ronaldo has nine goals, but that includes five with Portugal in World Cup qualifying. He is currently in a slump in the Spanish league with only two in six matches.

"I prefer that he always scores two or three goals a game but I'm not worried," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said Tuesday. He'll score soon and everyone will relax." Benzema scored his fourth goal of the season in a Spanish league game last weekend, while Bale has netted seven times in 14 appearances. Three of his goals came in three World Cup qualifiers with Wales.

Seven of Messi's goals this season were scored in the Spanish league, with one in the Spanish Super Cup and six from a couple of hat tricks in the Champions League. The current form could leave the 29-year-old forward in position to again win the Ballon d'Or award for the world's best player. He has already won the award five times, including last season.

Messi's great scoring start is somewhat of a surprise because in the last few years he has taken more of a playmaker role after the additions of Luis Suarez and Neymar.

The trio broke scoring records in each of the last two seasons, with Suarez leading the way last season. The Uruguay striker has opened with 10 goals in 13 appearances, while Neymar has found the net six times in 10 matches this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Argentine Messi, arguably the greatest player of all time, has begun this season with a bang.
DAVID RAMOS/GETTY IMAGES

Messi has been superb
High praise from Barcelona coach Luis Enrique

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RECIPE Slow Cooker Butter Chicken

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This takeout classic gets a healthy update with coconut oil but if you don't have any on hand, use butter and get an equally delicious result.

Ready in 6 to 8 hours
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 6 to 8 hours
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 2 lb chicken thighs or breasts, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 or 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp minced ginger
- 1 5 oz tube of tomato paste
- 1 heaping Tbsp curry powder
- 1 14 oz coconut milk
- 1/2 cup Greek yogurt
- 1/4 cup milk
- 2 Tbsp coconut oil
- small handful of cilantro for garnish

Directions

1. Put everything in the slow cooker and stir it all around.

2. Close the lid.

3. Set the timer for 6 hours. Don't worry if you need to be away from home for 8 hours or longer — it will be okay.

4. Serve with a big spoonful of jasmine rice and a sprinkling of cilantro.

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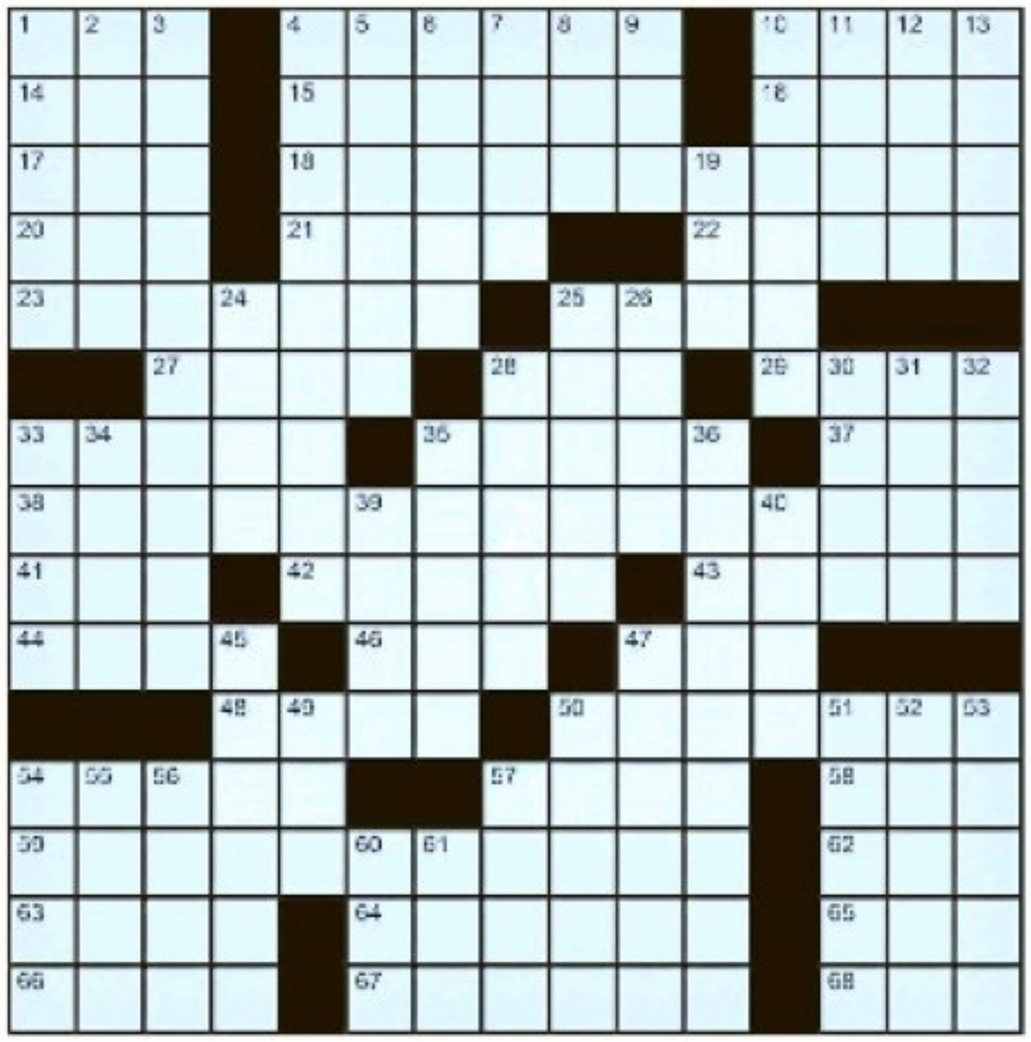
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "Party Hard" singer Andrew, et al.
4. "I'm Sorry": 1960 chart-topper for _ Lee
10. Tomato variety
14. Excavated deposit
15. Fix the food portions
16. Malefic
17. French body of water
18. Strenuosity
20. Evergreen tree
21. "Buenos _!"
22. Connecting points
23. Greg, to Carol Brady
25. _-Flush
27. Heartburn relief brand
28. Car engine's need
29. Survive
33. Ms. Belafonte of '80s TV show "Hotel"
35. Creaky location in many horror movies
37. 'Auction' suffix
38. Prince Charles since #59-Across' reign began in 1952: 4 wds.
41. "Whistle _ the Lave O't": Song by Scottish poet Robert Burns
42. Dragged into court
43. Moms of cousins
44. _ bargain
46. Outlying
47. Canadian politicians, e.g.
48. I _ You! (Away-from-home sentiment)
50. Skilfulness
54. Paxton and Evans
57. Rockefeller Center muralist
58. Mary _ Retton
59. Mum of the royal guy at #38-Across: Name + Roman Numeral
62. Hasty escape
63. Business' symbol on letterhead
64. Men's business-wear accessory, variantly: 2 wds.
65. Belief system
66. Comic books legend Mr. Lee
67. Concentrating/focused: 2 wds.
68. Swine's farm area

DOWN
1. Mr. Blitzer's of CNN
2. Brightly banded snake
3. Writer's fancy-sounding desk
4. Former CFL player who hosts Food Network's "Chopped Canada": 2 wds.
5. Cosine and sine
6. _ Frome (1911 Edith Wharton novel)
7. Naughts
8. _-eyed
9. _-Man (Marvel Comics superhero)
10. Draw back from sudden fear
11. Love poet of ancient Rome
12. Stage setting, _-en-scene
13. Charity contributions
19. Weekend getaway accommodation
24. Happy meower's noise
25. Located
26. Descended, as from a perch
28. Survey selection
30. "_ Flux" (2005) starring Charlize Theron
31. Placed the envelope in the box
32. Very, in Verdun
33. Store
34. Manolo Blahnik part
35. 1957 Ayn Rand novel, _ Shrugged
36. Dried lips balm
39. Clods
40. Autumn shade
45. Books-selling website
47. Shriver and Sharapova
49. Patience _ _ virtue
50. Zubin _ (Celebrated conductor)
51. Actress, Tracee _ Ross
52. _ beef
53. Delicious
54. Salts, in Sherbrooke
55. Much: 2 wds.
56. Latvia's capital city
57. Leave the text in
60. Post-Guess Who gr.
61. German article

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will be delighted by any chance to travel for pleasure today. This also is a good day to explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine and the law.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Keep your pockets open, because gifts, goodies and favors from others will come your way today. People are just generous to you!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a lovely day to relate to others, especially partners and close friends. Feelings of generosity and well-being will bless all your relationships today.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Work-related travel is likely today. If so, this is something you will enjoy. Meanwhile, praise and assistance from others will make your job easier. Yay!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a wonderful, creative day! It's a great day to enjoy sports events and playful activities with children. All social activities, including romantic rendezvous, will please you.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today is a much better day to make decisions about home-decorating projects. It's also a good day to entertain at home, as well as to explore real-estate opportunities.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You are in top form today! You're charming, diplomatic and happy to talk to everyone. Appreciate the beauty of your everyday surroundings. Appreciate the love in your world.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a good day for business and commerce, because you can see ways to boost your assets. You might get a raise or a better job, or you might make a perfect purchase..

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are so charming today! Everyone wants to see your face. In turn, you feel loved and happy. Enjoy your day!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Secret love affairs are taking place for some of you. (You know who you are.) Others will enjoy solitude in beautiful surroundings. Perfect.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a popular day for you! Enjoy schmoozing with others. Classes, meetings and groups will be a positive experience for you. In fact, all of your interactions with others will benefit you today.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You might develop a crush on your boss today. Others will approach you for advice on how to make something look more attractive. Don't hesitate to speak your mind.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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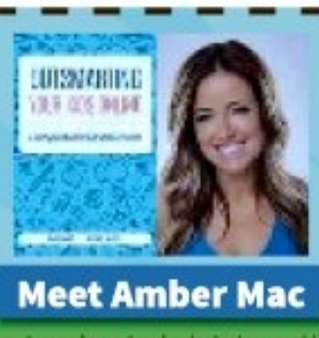

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